

## BOOK NOTICE

*The Lepidoptera of Nantucket and Marthas Vineyard Islands, Massachusetts.* By Frank Morton Jones and Charles P. Kimball. Publication of the Nantucket Maria Mitchell Association, vol. iv. Nantucket, Mass., May, 1943. 9 × 6 in., 217 p.

At a time when faunal lists and studies of geographical distribution appear to be somewhat out of favor with many entomologists, it is a pleasure to call attention to this work by Jones and Kimball outlining the results of their collecting and studies over many years.

According to the introduction by Jones, the lepidopterous fauna of these islands, which have a combined area of about 150 square miles, is rich and varied and there are recorded nearly 1,400 identified species, with more than 100 species awaiting identification. Although rich in species, much of the fauna is characterized by a scarcity of individuals. Many species have a wide distribution, but a considerable number have a southward rather than northward distribution.

The water-barrier between these islands and the mainland does not deter the flight of insects and the extra-zonal strays found on the islands indicate that the islands are subjected to the northward drift of southern species along the coast. Although some parts of the insect fauna may have had ancient occupancy, it is the belief of the authors that the fauna represents a continuous response to present and changing conditions.

In addition to the Introduction and the Annotated List, there is a Supplementary List, representing Nantucket and Marthas Vineyard specimens in the A. Bolter collection at the University of Illinois, which require further study, and also a list of "Unrecorded Species of Southern New England," by Charles P. Kimball.—H. B. W.